



PATENT Docket No.: 1187-18

TECH CENTER 1800/300

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Burssens et al.

Serial No.: 09/673,710

Description: Examiner: C. Collins

Filed : March 7, 2001 ) Art Unit: 1638

Corresponding to International

Application No.:PCT/EP99/02696

International

Filing Date: April 21, 1999

For : STRESS TOLERANT PLANTS

Dated : March 7, 2003

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 AND § 1.143

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 10, 2003, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § §1.111 and 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-12 and 17-31, drawn to a method for obtaining plants tolerant to abiotic stress conditions by introducing into a plant cell a non-phosphorylatable CDK meutein nucleic acid molecule.

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Dated: March 7, 2003

BUGH HULLING Bridget Griffin